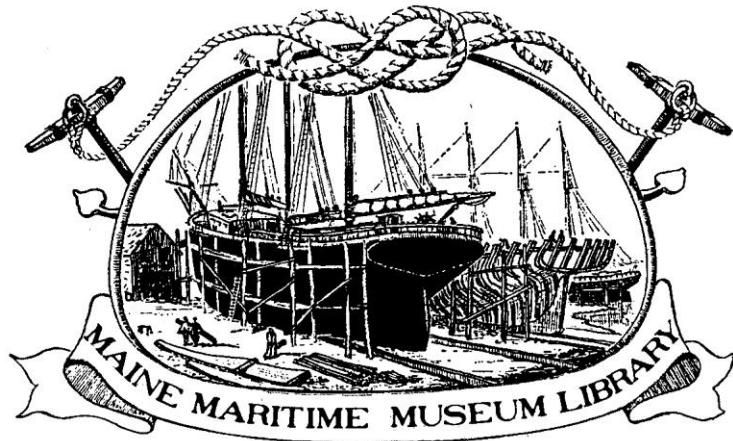


**Maine Maritime Museum Library**  
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**Inventory for  
Manuscript Collection  
MS - 37**

**Eugene P. Webber Papers**

**1877-1911**

by  
Elisabeth Meier  
August 2018

2 boxes  
0.8 linear feet  
*Accession no. 77.69.15, 19*

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## Abstract

### **Webber, Eugene P. (1852-1916)**

#### **Papers, 1877-1941**

2 boxes

Engineer in the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service

Correspondence, accounts, and ephemera from Eugene P. Webber (1852-1916), an engineer in the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service (or Revenue-Marine). The bulk of the collection is made up of orders, official communications, and more personal letters and accounts that span Webber's forty-year career. Personal material consists of letters and bills, many related to Webber's highly mobile life as a revenue officer. There is also material from the 1907 Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exhibition, which Webber helped organize, and from the United Service Organizations.

Gift of Eleanor Smith.

MS-037. Accession #77.69.15, 77.69.19.

Finding aid (folder level control) in repository.

#### **Added entries—persons:**

Webber, Eugene P. (1852-1916)

#### **Added entries—corporate bodies (including vessels):**

*USRC Levi Woodbury* (auxiliary revenue cutter)

#### **Added entries—key terms:**

Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exposition (1907)

Ships – Maintenance and repair

Steam-boilers

Steam engineers

United Service Organizations (U.S.)

United States. Revenue-Cutter Service

## Acquisition

This collection was donated to the museum by Eleanor Smith. Mrs. Smith found them in the Squire Tarbox house in Westport, where Webber had previously lived.

## Restrictions

There are no restrictions on this collection.

## Physical Condition

The documents are in good condition.

## Processing Note

Bills are arranged alphabetically by company, based on the extant arrangement of the collection.

## Related Materials

Eugene Webber's uniform, sword, badges, and some personal items are also in the collection with the numbers 77.69.1-14, .16-18, and .20-32. These were stored in a trunk with the papers in this collection.

In 1905, the graduating class of the Revenue Cutter Service's School of Instruction presented Webber with their yearbook. It is now in the library stacks with the call number V347.U55 1905.

## Historical Note

Eugene Prescott Webber (1852-1916) was raised in Westport, Maine. He was the son of Stephen P. Webber, a farmer and postmaster in Westport, and Caroline M. (Bartlet) Webber.

Eugene Webber spent his entire career as an engineer in the U.S. Revenue-Cutter Service. He joined the service in 1872, was promoted to the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Assistant Engineer in 1878, 1<sup>st</sup> Assistant Engineer in 1890, Chief Engineer in 1898, and Captain of Engineers in 1909. As the result of frequent reassignments, Webber spent significant time on both coasts and the Great Lakes. He supervised rebuilding the engines of the *USRC Discover* and *USRC Morrill*, and, while living in Westport on medical leave, inspected castings done for the Revenue Service at the Hyde Windlass Company. In 1906, Webber was assigned to help organize the Jamestown Ter-centennial Exhibition's Department of Machinery, which housed exhibits on naval and maritime technology. Webber retired in 1911 after serving for two years as the Special Disbursing Agent for the Revenue Service in Port Townsend.

While Webber was stationed in North Carolina in 1876, he married Margaret Owens Brown of Washington, NC. Their only child, Maud Eugenie Webber, was born in there in 1878. Webber's family occasionally followed him to his more permanent assignments, but often lived with relatives in Maine or North Carolina. The family retired to Westport, where Margaret and Maud lived long after Webber's death in 1916.

## Scope and Content Note

This collection contains correspondence, accounts, and ephemera from across Eugene P. Webber's career with the U.S. Revenue Cutter Service. Official orders and communications make up the bulk of the collection, and record most of Webber's career assignments. Though sparse, these also detail an engineer's responsibilities for engine maintenance and repair, official policies and procurement processes, and other matters. Webber's work on the Jamestown Ter-centennial Exhibition is represented in a folder of ephemera from the event, as well as in many business cards from exhibitors.

Personal material is mostly comprised of correspondence and bills, which are representative, if not comprehensive, of Webber's peripatetic life. Notes, sketches, and a few pamphlets represent Webber's professional interest in steam engineering and naval architecture. There is also a group of pamphlets, ephemera, and fundraising campaign handbooks from the United Service Organizations which may have been added to the collection by a relative after Webber's death.

### Box and Folder List

Box	Folder	
1		US Revenue-Cutter Service
	1	Official correspondence, 1878-1901
	2	Official correspondence, 1899-1911
2	1	Correspondence, 1907-1910
	2	Bills and accounts, 1877-1900; <i>USRC Woodbury</i>
	3	Jamestown Ter-Centennial Exposition, 1907
	4	Blank forms and vouchers
	5	Pamphlets and publications, 1903-1940
	6	Personal correspondence, 1899-1909
	7	Personal bills and accounts, 1904-1909 and undated
	8	Business cards and calling cards, 1905-1907 and undated
	9	Notes and calculations
	10	Sketches
	11	Pamphlets, Steam Engines, 1907 and undated
	12	Pamphlets and ephemera, United Service Organizations, 1941 and undated
	13	Envelopes